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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/849,533	05/20/2004	John A. Krause	45164	5572
1609	7590	09/09/2005	EXAMINER	
ROYLANCE, ABRAMS, BERDO & GOODMAN, L.L.P. 1300 19TH STREET, N.W. SUITE 600 WASHINGTON,, DC 20036			DUVERNE, JEAN F	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2839	

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/849,533	KRAUSE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jean F. Duverne	2839	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 15-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 7-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 5 and 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/23/04</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's election with traverse of group I in the reply filed on 6/23/2005 is acknowledged. The examiner believes that the restriction is proper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4, 7-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipate by Honkomp (US005493073A) .

Honkomp's device discloses an electrical connector, comprising:

a housing at 7 including an inner bore at and an open end providing access to said inner bore, said inner bore having an inner surface and a bore retaining groove (22) disposed in said inner surface in the inner surface;

a piston-contact element (17) slidably received in said inner bore of said housing though said open end, said piston-contact element being axially movable between retracted and advanced positions and having an outer surface with an element retaining groove at 19 disposed in said outer surface to be received into the groove element; and a resilient member (21) receive in the retaining grooves releasably retaining said piston-contact element in one of said retracted and advanced positions within said inner bore of said housing; wherein said piston-contact element is in said

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retracted position when said resilient member is received in said first and second retaining grooves; and said piston-contact element is in said advanced position when said resilient member is received in said bore retaining groove and spaced from said element retaining groove (see fig. 4); wherein said piston-contact element includes opposing first and second ends; said first end at 17 is adapted to engage another electrical connector; and said second end includes a stop or protrusion (annular shoulder) formed by the recess substantially preventing removal of contact member from said inner bore of said housing; wherein said retaining grooves are each substantially annular and continuous (see fig. 1); wherein said bore retaining groove includes first and second side walls and an end wall extending there between; and an angled wall extends from said second side wall facilitating engagement of said resilient member in said first groove (see fig. 4); wherein said element retaining groove includes first and second side walls and an end wall extending therebetween, said second side wall being angled with respect to said first side wall facilitating disengagement of said resilient member from said second groove (see fig. 4); wherein said resilient member is a substantially ring shaped spring (see fig. 1); wherein said resilient member includes a slot allowing expansion and compression of said resilient member; wherein said housing includes an inner conductive sleeve; and said bore retaining groove is disposed in said conductive sleeve (see fig. 1), the multiple connectors (17) can be connected to different connectors;

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honkomp (US005493073A) in view of Chatard et al (US006796780B1).

Honkomp's device discloses the aforementioned limitations, but fails to explicitly disclose the high voltage features. Chatard's device disclose the use of high voltage in the busing insert type of connector. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use high voltage in the busing insert type of connector such as the one disclosed in order to meet the system specification and requirement.

Conclusion

3. Claims 5-6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Prior art fails to explicitly disclose the combination features the piston contact element having the first end with the probe finger and the second end with the piston and with the rest of the claims limitations.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean F. Duverne whose telephone number is (571) 272-2091. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-7:30, Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TC Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JFD

09/03/2005



Jean Frantz Duverne
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839